

From: ["Thomas. Hattie" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE>](mailto:Thomas.Hattie@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE)
To:
CC:
Date: 8/7/2013 4:08:19 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 8/7/13

OPA Daily Digest for 8/7/13

Congressional Inquiries:

Rep. William Lacy Clay (Mo.) 7/31/13: Coordination of information sharing with citizens group and local residents about cleanup efforts at the West Lake Landfill site. Due: 8/14/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) 8/6/13: West Lake Landfill FUSRAP designation. Due: 8/20/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Charles Grassley (Iowa) 8/5/13: Additional questions on removal of lime solids. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

None

Environmental Stories:

Des Moines Register - EPA may relax the ethanol mandate in 2014 - 8/7/13 - The Obama administration said Tuesday it will propose reducing the country's ethanol mandate in 2014, acknowledging that the increasing levels laid out by Congress in 2007 are unrealistic and may need to be reduced.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20130807/BUSINESS01/308070059/0/xxxxxxxxxx/?odyssey=nav|head>

Andover American - Heavy Rain – Safety Reminders - 8/6/13 - And, here's another not-so-common rain danger identified by the EPA. Several years ago some residents in Sedgwick County experienced oxygen depletion in their homes after heavy rains saturated the grounds surrounding them.

<http://www.andoveramerican.com/article/20130806/BLOGS/308069968#axzz2bHemmQz4?refresh=true>

Political News - Inhofe Responds to Administration's Announcement of 2013 Volume Mandates for Renewable Fuels - 8/7/13 - U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.), a senior member of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee, responded to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) release of the 2013 Renewable Fuel Standard

volume mandates.

<http://politicalnews.me/?id=24480&keys=EPW-RENEWABLE-FUELS-BROKEN>

Delaware Online - EPA gives refiners more time on renewable fuel mandate - 8/6/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency gave refiners additional time to meet renewable fuel quotas, although it left unchanged this year's mandate to use 16.55 billion gallons of those fuels.

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20130807/BUSINESS06/308070021/EPA-gives-refiners-more-time-renewable-fuel-mandate>

Washington Times - EPA cutting alternative fuels goal in bow to market reality - 8/6/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency bowed Tuesday to the limits of the U.S. market's ability to work renewable fuels into the nation's energy mix, disclosing it will set 2014 production goals for alternative motor fuels that are below the target set by law.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2013/aug/6/epa-cutting-alternative-fuels-goal-in-bow-to-marke/>

Agriculture.com - EPA may relax the ethanol mandate in 2014 - 8/7/13 - The Obama administration said Tuesday it will propose reducing the country's ethanol mandate in 2014, acknowledging that the increasing levels laid out by Congress in 2007 are unrealistic and may need to be reduced.

<http://community.agriculture.com/t5/Farm-Business/EPA-may-relax-the-ethanol-mandate-in-2014/m-p/370476>

St. Louis Public Radio - St. Louis County's Stenger Calls For Stricter Regulation Of Ameren's Meramec Power Plant - 8/6/13 - A St. Louis County Councilman has sent a letter to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources raising concerns about pollution from Ameren's Meramec Coal Plant.

<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/st-louis-countys-stenger-calls-stricter-regulation-amerens-meramec-power-plant>

Mehlville-Oakville Patch - Coal Ash Opponents Gain Traction in Fight Against Ameren - 8/6/13 - It's been a little more than a month since a group of local residents and Sierra Club members asked the St. Louis County Council to seek groundwater testing at Ameren's Meramec Energy Center in Oakville.

<http://mehlville-oakville.patch.com/groups/politics-and-elections/p/coal-ash-opponents-gain-traction-in-fight-against-ameren>

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - St. Louis County councilman seeks tighter controls on Meramec plant - 8/7/13 - A St. Louis County councilman is seeking support from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in an effort to tighten controls on air and groundwater pollution at the Ameren Missouri coal-fired power plant at the Meramec River.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/st-louis-county-councilman-seeks-tighter-controls-on-meramec-plant/article_26c44da0-a67f-5801-925d-40d63637f9df.html

KTVI-TV - St. Louis County Councilman wants better monitoring of Meramec Coal Plant - 8/6/13 - St. Louis County Councilman Steve Stenger has sent a letter of concern to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources over Ameren's Meramec Coal plant in south St. Louis County.

<http://fox2now.com/2013/08/06/st-louis-county-councilman-wants-better-monitoring-of-meramec-coal-plant/>

The Washington Post - The U.S. is hitting its ethanol limit. So the EPA may relax its biofuels rules. - 8/7/13 - When it comes to ethanol, the United States appears to have reached its limit — at least for the time being.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/08/07/the-u-s-is-hitting-its-ethanol-limit-so-the-epa-may-tweak-its-biofuels-rules/>

Lincoln Journal Star - EPA relaxes renewables quotas - 8/7/13 - The federal government relaxed quotas for renewable fuels as U.S. production of next-generation sources and demand for gasoline have lagged projections. In issuing long-overdue final quotas, the Environmental Protection Agency on Tuesday gave refiners an additional four months -- to June of next year -- to reach the goal of using 16.55 billion gallons of renewable fuel for 2013.

http://journalstar.com/news/state-and-regional/epa-relaxes-renewables-quota/article_04b78a95-be52-568c-ab0e-04902c0cab52.html

Agriculture.com - EPA may relax the ethanol mandate in 2014 - 8/7/13 - The Obama administration said Tuesday it will propose reducing the country's ethanol mandate in 2014, acknowledging that the increasing levels laid out by Congress in 2007 are unrealistic and may need to be reduced. The oil industry has warned about the "blend wall," a threshold where refiners are struggling to blend enough ethanol into the country's fuel mix to comply with a congressional mandate.

<http://community.agriculture.com/t5/Farm-Business/EPA-may-relax-the-ethanol-mandate-in-2014/m-p/370476>

Fuel Fix - EPA Decision to Avoid Blendwall in 2013-14 is Right Step - 8/7/13 - Yesterday, the EPA finally finalized its 2013 volumetric ethanol blending standards. The requirements on how much ethanol must be blended into the nation's fuel supply remain near the E10 blendwall (at a 9.74% national blend), and grossly overestimate the ability of the cellulosic biofuels industry to meet the mandate.

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2013/08/07/epa-decision-to-avoid-blendwall-in-2013-is-right-step/>

Domestic Fuel - EZ Stop of Mapleton, Iowa Commits to E15 - 8/7/13 - EZ Stop of Mapleton, Iowa will be offering E15 to 2001 and newer vehicles this fall. EZ Stop is located in Northwest Iowa at 401 South 4th Street in Mapleton. E15, a blend of gasoline and 15 percent ethanol, can be used by all 2001 and newer passenger vehicles, which account for about 85 percent of fuel use in the United States.

<http://domesticfuel.com/2013/08/07/ez-stop-of-mapleton-iowa-commits-to-e15/>

CNN - Who's blocking 'good' ethanol? - 8/7/13 - When Royal DSM opens a \$250 million facility in Emmetsburg, Iowa in a few months, it could be the first of its kind in the country to make biofuel from corn waste on a commercial scale. The DSM plant is one of a handful of cellulosic fuel facilities racing to start production in the next few months, but the project has landed the company in the middle of an imbroglio with the oil industry over federal renewable fuel requirements.

[http://features.blogs.fortune.cnn.com/2013/08/07/ethanol/?](http://features.blogs.fortune.cnn.com/2013/08/07/ethanol/?section=money_topstories&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+rss%2Fmoney_topstories+(Top+Stories))

[section=money_topstories&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+rss%2Fmoney_topstories+\(Top+Stories\)](http://features.blogs.fortune.cnn.com/2013/08/07/ethanol/?section=money_topstories&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+rss%2Fmoney_topstories+(Top+Stories))

Huffington Post - BP Settlement Lawsuit Heats Up As They Are Ordered To Pay Administrator \$130 Million - 8/7/13 - A federal magistrate has ordered BP to pay more than \$130 million in fees to the court-supervised administrator of its multibillion-dollar settlement with Gulf Coast businesses and residents after the company's 2010 oil spill.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/07/bp-settlement-lawsuit_n_3720474.html?utm_hp_ref=green

Midwest Energy News - General Electric drops plans for Colorado solar plant - 8/7/13 - Citing a production glut, General Electric drops plans for a Colorado facility that would have been the largest solar plant in the U.S. and will partner with First Solar instead.

<http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2013/08/07/dd-general-electric-drops-plans-for-colorado-solar-plant/>

Heartland Institute - Fracking Brings Employment - 8/7/13 - Signs of pride and prosperity were evident all over Williamsport and the gorgeous northern Pennsylvania countryside around it. Friendly, happy people greeted us. New cars, trucks, hotels and restaurants sparkled in a clean, bustling downtown. New roofs topped barns and houses, while late model tractors worked the fields. Formerly dirt roads are now paved.

<http://blog.heartland.org/2013/08/fracking-brings-employment/>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

Public Comment Period Announced – A-TEC Recycling Inc. TSCA-PCB Commercial Storage Application, Des Moines, Iowa – 8/6/13 – Contact: Beckie Himes, 7253

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

8/15/13 – Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Awards Ceremony, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

8/19/13 - Meet and greet with CID KCAO – Carlos Rivera, Regional Office. Contact: Mike Burnett, 7990

8/27/13 – Visit Kickapoo Nation, Horton, Kan. Contact: Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

9/9/13 - Interagency Environmental Leadership Council, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

9/13/13 – Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, Kan. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

10/15/13 - 2013 Fall Water Symposium, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

10/29-30/13 - SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference, Washington, DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

DRA:

10/29-30/13 - SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference - Washington, DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

8/7/13 – Attending quarterly meeting with MDNR, Sedalia, Mo. Contact: Amy Bhesania, 7147.

9/18/13 – Providing training to the Allergy Foundation of America, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Bob Dye, 7605.

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

8/8/13 – Public meeting in Hastings, Neb., to present the Proposed Plan for the Garvey Elevator site to the public for comment. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

8/15/13 – Oronogo-Duenweg Mining Belt Superfund site public meeting, Joplin, Mo. Contact: Debbie Kring, 7725

SUPR

8/5 - 9/13 - Groundwater contamination investigation, Plating Inc Superfund site, Great Bend, Kan. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

8/12 - 16/13 - Groundwater contamination investigation and site-related meetings, Plating Inc. Superfund site, Great Bend, Kan. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

8/13-14/13 – EPA/DOD Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program and Environmental Security Technology Certification Program conference, Washington, DC. Contact: Clint Sperry, 7157

8/19-8/23/13 - Groundwater contamination investigation, Plating Inc Superfund site, Great Bend, Kan. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

8/26-8/29/13 - Groundwater contamination investigation, Plating Inc Superfund site, Great Bend, Kan. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

8/28/13 – State of Missouri – Chem/Bio Functional Exercise, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Megan Schuette, 7630

WWPD

***8/9/13** - Safe Drinking Water Act discussion with Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Topeka, Kan. Contacts: Karen Flournoy, 7782, Diane Huffman, 7544, Scott Marquess, 7131

***8/13-15/13** – Soil Science Society of America Nitrogen Use Efficiency Conference, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

***8/14/13** – Kansas Department of Health and Environment 2013 Kansas Environmental Conference, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Glenn Curtis, 7726

8/14-15/13 – Iowa Department of Natural Resources Public Water System Supervision Coordination meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036

8/14/13 - Kansas Department of Health and Environment program implementation issues, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Steve Schaff, 7447

8/19/13 - Kansas Department of Health and Environment program implementation issues, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Steve Schaff, 7447

8/20-22/13 – Meet with WinnaVegas and Santee Sioux, Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products plans, Sloan, Iowa and Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Kimberly Willis, 7069

8/26/13 – Missouri Department of Natural Resources Public Water System Supervision Coordination meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036, Carolyn Mitchell, 7187, Robert Dunlevy, 7798

8/26/13 - Kansas Department of Health and Environment program implementation issues, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Steve Schaff, 7447

***9/9-13/13** – Nebraska Health and Human Services End of Year Commitments Program Review, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Ken Deason, 7585

Hattie L. Thomas

Acting Director

Office of Public Affairs

EPA Region 7

11201 Renner Boulevard

Lenexa, KS 66219

Ph: 913-551-7762, Fax: 913-551-7066